Application No. 10/044,711

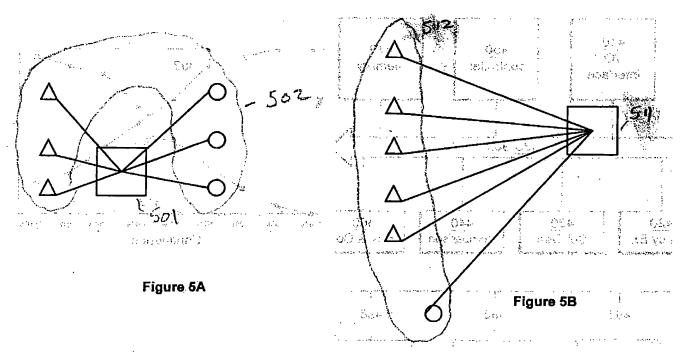
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REMARKS

Claims 1-34 are currently pending in this application. Applicants' arguments with respect to claims 1-34 have been considered but are moot in view of the new ground(s) of rejection under 35 U.S.C. 112, second paragraph, as being indefinite for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter which applicants regard as the invention. However, the Examiner has stated that claims 1-34 would be allowable if rewritten or amended to overcome the rejection(s) under 35 U.S.C. 112, second paragraph, set forth in the Office Action.

Interview with Primary Examiner Le

Applicants appreciate Examiner Le's courtesy, filling for an in person interview of this case on short notice. During the interview, proposed amendments in substantially the form presented by this filing were discussed. Examiner Le reviewed our proposed modification of Figures 5A-B, reproduced below, without making any criticisms. She



suggested adding a few words to the specification explaining the difference between circles and triangles. Examiner Le reviewed our proposed wording of the specification, at our request, to make sure that no new matter was being introduced. Alternative wordings of claims 5 and 6 and similar claims were discussed with general concurrence

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regarding revised wording. It was our impression at the end of the interview that reconsideration after final was likely to be granted.

Objection to the Drawings

The Examiner objects to the **drawings** because Figures 5A-B do not illustrate clearly what the elements of the figures are supposed to indicate. The drawings have been amended as indicated above. Applicants respectfully submit that the objection to the drawings should be withdrawn.

Rejection Under 35 U.S.C. § 112 of Claims 1-34

The Examiner rejects **claims 1-34** under 35 U.S.C. § 112 as failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter. Amendments are made in this paper, consistent with our discussions with Primary Examiner Le.

Claims 1 & 22

The Examiner argues that claims 1 & 22 lack an antecedent basis for the limitation "the automatic category assignments". The phrase "automatically categorizing the test documents" in the second element is the antecedent basis for "the automatic category assignments for the test documents" in the third element.

Therefore, claims 1 & 22 should not be rejected under § 112.

Claims 5-9 and 27

The Examiner argues that **claims 5-9 and 27** lack specificity in the term "substantially". Claim 5 has been amended, broadened and made definite by replacing "substantially all" with "50 percent or more", which is supported by the original specification. In the other claims, substantially without user intervention has been replaced with "automatically", without narrowing how the claim would ordinarily be understood.

Therefore, claims 5-9 and 27 should not be rejected under § 112.

Applicants respectfully submit that the rejection of claims 1-34 under § 112 should be withdrawn.

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CONCLUSION

Applicants respectfully submit that the pending claims are now in condition for allowance and thereby solicit acceptance of the claims, in light of these amendments.

The undersigned can ordinarily be reached at his office at (650) 712-0340 from 8:30 to 5:30 PST, Monday through Friday, and can be reached at his cell phone (415) 902-6112 most other times.

Respectfully submitted,

Dated: 23 November 2005

Ernest J. Beffel, J.

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Amendment Dated 23 November 2005
Reply to Office Action of 23 August 2005 Annotated Sheet Showing Changes

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Sheet 3/3

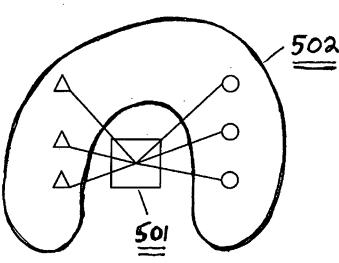


Figure 5A

